National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

Intrinsic ethics regarding integrated assessment models for climate management

Author(s): Schienke EW, Baum SD, Tuana N, Davis KJ, Keller K
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Abstract:

In this essay we develop and argue for the adoption of a more comprehensive model of research ethics than is included within current conceptions of responsible conduct of research (RCR). We argue that our model, which we label the ethical dimensions of scientific research (EDSR), is a more comprehensive approach to encouraging ethically responsible scientific research compared to the currently typically adopted approach in RCR training. This essay focuses on developing a pedagogical approach that enables scientists to better understand and appreciate one important component of this model, what we call intrinsic ethics. Intrinsic ethical issues arise when values and ethical assumptions are embedded within scientific findings and analytical methods. Through a close examination of a case study and its application in teaching, namely, evaluation of climate change integrated assessment models, this paper develops a method and case for including intrinsic ethics within research ethics training to provide scientists with a comprehensive understanding and appreciation of the critical role of values and ethical choices in the production of research outcomes.

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Resource Description

Communication: ☑

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience: ☑

audience to whom the resource is directed

Researcher

Exposure : ☑

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Unspecified Exposure

Geographic Feature: ☑

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location: ☑

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

Health Impact: ☑

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Health Outcome Unspecified

Mitigation/Adaptation: ☑

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Model/Methodology: ☑

type of model used or methodology development is a focus of resource

Methodology

Resource Type: ☑

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article, Review

Timescale: ☑

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified